Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-12 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SSM-03 /078 W

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O 230601Z MAR 78 FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1467 INFO USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 333 DIA WASH DC IMMEDIATE HQ MAC SCOTT AFB IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL KATHMANDU 1488

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, UNSC, MARR, NP, LE, IS, XF SUBJECT: NEPALESE CONTINGENT FOR UNIFIL

REF: STATE 074813

1. FOREIGN SECRETARY BHATT TELEPHONED US MARCH 22
EVENING TO ASK WHETHER IT WAS DEFINITELY DECIDED
THAT U.S. WOULD UNDERTAKE AIRLIFT OF NEPALESE
CONTINGENT. BHATT SAID REASON HE WAS ASKING IS
THAT GON WOULD LIKE TO HAVE ROYAL NEPAL AIRLINES
TRANSPORT NEPALESE TROOPS, WITH UN PRESUMABLY MEETING COSTS.
WE TOLD BHATT OUR UNDERSTANDING WAS THAT USG MADE OFFER TO UN
OF U.S. ASSISTANCE IN AIRLIFTING NATIONAL CONTINGENTS, BUT
WE DID NOT KNOW WHAT FINAL ARRANGEMENTS WOULD BE.

2. ASSISTANT DEFENSE MINISTER SHRIDHAR RANA MARCH 22 EVENING MADE SAME POINT TO DEFENSE ATTACHE, ADDING THAT NEPAL WAS NEGOTIATING WITH UN OVER POSSIBLE USE OF RNAC IN AIRLIFT.

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3. WE UNDERSTAND THAT RNAC BROUGHT BACK NEPALESE CONTINGENTS FROM MIDDLE EAST WHEN NEPAL PARTICIPATED IN UN EMERGENCY FORCE THERE IN 1974. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT RNAC HAS ONLY ONE PLANE, A BOEING 727, AND THAT NEPALESE AIRLIFT OF 600 MEN AND EQUIPMENT WOULD THEREFORE REQUIRE SEVERAL TRIPS. RETURN OF 571 PERSONS AND THEIR EQUIPMENT REQUIRED 6 TRIPS IN 1974.

4. REQUEST GUIDANCE ON LIKELY U.S. ROLE IN AIRLIFT
OPERATION.
HECK

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: TROOP DEPLOYMENT, MILITARY AIRLIFTS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 23 mar 1978 Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978KATHMA01488
Document Source: CORE

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A

Expiration: Film Number: D780127-1000 Format: TEL From: KATHMANDU Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780333/aaaabboi.tel

Line Count: 66 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ac371fbf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION IO

Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: 78 STĂTE 74813

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 05 may 2005 Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a

Review Media Identifier: Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 3228191 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: NEPALESE CONTINGENT FOR UNIFIL TAGS: PORG, MARR, NP, LE, IS, XF, UNSC, UNIFIL

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ac371fbf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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